

**Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the present patent application:

**Listing of Claims:**

**Claim 1 (currently amended).** A system for butt welding two expansion joint rails with a control system, wherein each expansion joint rail comprises at least one gland cavity having a fixed distance from the top of each expansion joint rail, said system having a welding shoe assembly comprising:

~~at least one~~ a top gland shoe and a bottom gland shoe configured to occupy said at least one gland cavity; and

a pair of butt shoes that abut said expansion joint rail and said top ~~at least one~~ gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe.

**Claim 2 (currently amended).** The system of claim 1 wherein said ~~at least one~~ top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe are composed ~~is composed~~ primarily of copper.

**Claim 3 (original).** The system of claim 2 wherein said plurality of butt shoes are composed primarily of copper.

**Claim 4 (cancelled).**

**Claim 5 (original).** The system of claim 4 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe are beveled.

**Claim 6 (original).** The system of claim 4 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe slidably interface with one another.

**Claim 7 (currently amended).** The system of claim 1 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe are at least one gland shoe is water cooled.

**Claim 8 (cancelled).**

**Claim 9 (cancelled).**

**Claim 10 (cancelled).**

**Claim 11 (cancelled).**

**Claim 12 (cancelled).**

**Claim 13 (cancelled).**

**Claim 14 (cancelled).**

**Claim 15 (cancelled).**

**Claim 16 (cancelled).**

**Claim 17 (cancelled).**

**Claim 18 (cancelled).**

**Claim 19 (cancelled).**

**Claim 20 (cancelled).**

**Claim 21 (cancelled).**

**Claim 22 (cancelled).**

**Claim 23 (cancelled).**

**Claim 24 (cancelled).**

**Claim 25 (cancelled).**

**Claim 26 (cancelled).**

**Claim 27 (cancelled).**

**Claim 28 (cancelled).**

**Claim 29 (cancelled).**

**Claim 30 (cancelled).**

**Claim 31 (currently amended).** A welding shoe assembly for butt welding two expansion joint rails wherein each expansion joint rail comprises at least one gland cavity having a fixed distance from the top of each expansion joint rail, said welding shoe assembly, comprising:

a top gland shoe and a bottom gland shoe ~~at least one gland shoe~~ configured to occupy said at least one gland cavity; and

a pair of butt shoes that abut said expansion joint rail and said at least one gland shoe.

**Claim 32 (currently amended).** The welding shoe assembly of claim 31 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe are ~~at least one gland shoe~~ is composed primarily of copper.

**Claim 33 (original).** The welding shoe assembly of claim 32 wherein said plurality of butt shoes are composed primarily of copper.

**Claim 34 (cancelled).**

**Claim 35 (original).** The welding shoe assembly of claim 34 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe are beveled.

**Claim 36 (original).** The welding shoe assembly of claim 34 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe slidably interface with one another.

**Claim 37 (currently amended).** The welding shoe assembly of claim 31 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe are ~~at least one gland shoe is~~ water cooled.

**Claim 38 (cancelled).**